PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

application of

Docket No: Q80694

Tsutomu TAKAYAMA, et al.

Appln. No.: 10/811,977

Group Art Unit: 3729

Confirmation No.: 3001

Examiner: Rick Kilatae CHANG

Filed: March 30, 2004

For:

METHOD AND APPARATUS OF DETERMINING ACCEPTABILITY OF PRESS

CONTACT TERMINAL

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT AND ELECTION OF SPECIES REQUIREMENT

MAIL STOP AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

This is in response to the Office Action mailed August 21, 2006, in which the Examiner set a shortened statutory period for response by one month, making a reply due on or before October 23, 2006 (one-month extended due October 21, 2006, which was a Saturday).

In the Action, the Examiner has required restriction under 35 U.S.C. § 121 to one of the following:

Group I - Claims 1-3, 16 and 18-20, drawn to a method; and

Group II - Claims 4-15, 17 and 21-26, drawn to an apparatus.

Applicants hereby elects Group I, drawn to claims 1-3, 16 and 18-20, drawn to a method without traverse.

Response to Restriction Requirement and Election of Species Requirement SUGHRUE MION, PLLC Ref: Q80694

Furthermore, since Applicants have elected Group I, Applicants have the following Species in which to elect:

> Group I Claims 1-2 and 18-20, drawn to inserting a

detector:

Claim 3, drawn to inserting the wire; and Group II Group III Claim 16, drawn to acquiring an outer

shape.

Applicants further elect Species Group II (claim 3, drawn to inserting the wire) without traverse. Applicant reserves the right to file divisional applications on the non-elected claims.

In view of the foregoing, Applicants believe that a complete examination on the merits is now in order. Early and favorable action is respectfully requested.

If the Examiner believes that a personal or telephone interview would be helpful, she is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the local telephone number listed below.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date: October 23, 2006